

HF Happenings 730

South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925

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www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp

November

1 to 4 - Delmas Christmas Market
2 to 3 - Christmas Country Fair, Ballito
4 to 6 - Cape Classic 380, Montagu
5 - RaDAR Challenge; Elim Wine Festival, Overberg; Fanschhoek Craft Festival; Pure Boland Mark, Worcester; Winterton Street Festival; Irene Market; **Pretoria Amateur Radio Club Flea Market**
6 - PEARS HF Contest
11 - Armistice Day
11 to 13 - Knysna Timber Festival
13 - SARL Youth Net
16 to 18 - GWK Cherry Festival, Ficksburg
17 to 19 - Sandstone Steam Cherry Festival
19 - Antique Wireless Association AGM & Swopmeet
25 - Closing date for December Radio ZS articles
26 - West Rand Flea market
26 and 27 - CQ WW CW Contest

December

1 - Start of "Youth on the Air" Month

The 2016 CQ World-Wide CW DX Contest

Date: 26 and 27 November. Time: 00:00:00 UTC Saturday to 23:59:59 UTC Sunday. Objective: For amateurs around the world to contact as many other amateurs in as many CQ zones and countries as possible. Bands: 1.8, 3.5, 7, 14, 21 and 28 MHz. Exchange: RST report plus CQ Zone (e.g., 599 38). <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

South African Radio League Digital Contest

Aim: To establish as many contacts as possible between radio amateurs in Southern Africa using the PSK31 / RTTY modes. Date and Time: 13:00 UTC to 16:00 UTC on Sunday 4 December 2016. Bands: 80 metres (3 580 to 3 600 kHz), 40 metres (7 040 to 7 060 kHz) and 20 metres (14 070 to 14 099 kHz). PSK31 is preferred at the lower end of the specified frequencies, RTTY is preferred at the upper end of the specified frequencies. Please note that USB must be used at all times. Exchange: RST plus a sequential serial number starting at 001. See the 2016 Blue Book for more details

Ten-Meter RTTY Contest

Object: Amateurs worldwide contact and exchange QSO information with other amateurs using Baudot RTTY on the 10 meter band. Any station may work any other station. The recommended baud rate is 45.45 baud with 170 Hz shift. Date and Contest Period: Sunday of the first full weekend of December 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 4 December 2016. Exchange: United States: RST and State, Canada: RST and Province. DX: RST and Consecutive serial number, starting with 001. <http://www.rttycontesting.com/ten-meter-rtty-contest/rules/>

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ARRL 10-Meter Contest

Objective: For Amateurs worldwide to exchange QSO information with as many stations as possible on the 10 meter band. Dates: Second full weekend of December. Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; runs through 2359 UTC Sunday (December 10-11, 2016). All stations operate no more than 36 hours out of the 48-hour period. Contest Exchange: W/VE stations (including Hawaii and Alaska) send RS(T) and state or province (District of Columbia stations send signal report and DC), DX stations (including KH2, KP4, etc.) send RS(T) and sequential serial number starting with 001, Mexican stations transmit RS(T) and their state, Maritime mobile stations send RS(T) and ITU Region (R1, R2 or R3). <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>

DXCC News

The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved the 2016 operation by T31T from Kanton Island for DXCC credit.

African DX

Egypt, SU. Nacho, EA7TN will be active as SU9JG from Egypt during the CQ WW DX CW contest. QSL via EA5GL.

Morocco, CN. CN2R will be operated by OK1RI, OK5MM, OK1JKT, OM6NM, OK1DO, OK1NY, OK1HGM, OK1FFU, and W7EJ in the CQ WW DX CW contest. QSL via W7EJ.

Ghana, 9G. Dave, AB0GC, reports that he is in Wechi (Brong-Ahafo Region), Ghana and will be operating as 9G1SD. He informs OPDX that his complete details are too soon to report on because he has to set things up first. However, he states, "I plan to operate from 20 to 10 meters SSB in particular (as possible), but I have a SignalLink so I may be able to do some other modes. I found the old CW key I left here when I was here before, so some hand CW may be in the future! I used to do some 40 meters West Africa QSOs and I even ventured down to 80 meters for the European net there in the 'Winter'. I may try that again. The situation is a little different now, with a different location, more noise and many VHF/FM stations around to contend with. I will see what I can do...." QSL via AB0GC, but it may be sometime before you get any QSLs. He is checking into eQSL.

Dem. Rep. of the Congo, 9Q. Christian, IS0BWM, will be active using the special event call sign 9Q0HQ/3 in Kengé from the Democratic Republic of the Congo between 20 November and 25 December. He has received written permission from the national amateur radio club (ARAC). Activity will be on various HF bands using SSB. QSL via IS0BWM direct only (see QRZ.com). Log will be posted on ClubLog.

Côte D'Ivoire, TU. Bertrand/DF3FS, Norbert/DJ7JC and Heye/DJ9RR, will be active as TU5MH from Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) between 22 January and 2 February. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via DJ5BWD, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW.

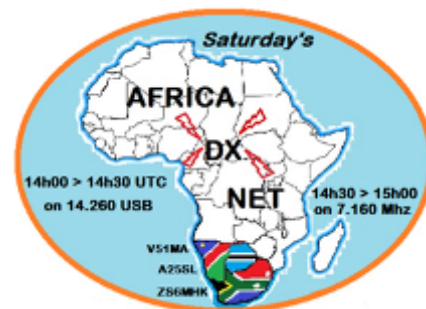
African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz
SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Madeira, CT3. Jose, CT1BOH is going to operate the CQ WW DX CW contest as CR300 from Madeira Island (AF-014, CQ Zone 33, WW Loc IM12ju). QSL via LoTW.

Adam, DJ0IF, Franta, DJ0ZY, Uli, DJ2YA, Falk, DK7YY, Arno, DL1CW, Ulf, DL5AXX, Andreas, DL5CW, Mike, DL7UGN, Emil, DL8JJ, and Vesko, LZ2JE, will be active with the call CR3W from Madeira for the CQ WW DX CW contest. QSL via DL5AXX, OQRS, LoTW.



3 – International Day for Disabled Persons

3 and 4 - UK/EI DX SSB Contest

4 - SARL Digital Contest

7 - all schools close

10 - International Human Rights Day

10 and 11 - ARRL 10 m Contest

11 - SARL Youth Net

16 - Day of Reconciliation

21 - Summer Solstice

25 - Christmas Day; Channukah (1st Day)

26 - Family Day

31 - Old Year's Eve; End of 2016 CQ Marathon and YOTA month

Radio Amateur searches for balloons

The Union Leader newspaper reports amateur radio enthusiast Mike Hojnowski, KD2EAT, searches the hills of Landaff for balloons and tracker that circumnavigated the globe. There are many mysteries and secrets in the town's high hills, including most recently the whereabouts of two silver Mylar balloons and the homemade electronic tracker they carried around the world.

Mike Hojnowski, an amateur radio enthusiast and systems engineer at Cornell University, launched the balloons and tracker at 12:58 pm on 19 October from Rhodes Hall at the Ithaca, N.Y. school. Ten days later, he determined that they had crashed here in Landaff, on a west-facing slope and at an elevation of between 1 000 and 1 300 feet after encountering a storm.

Hojnowski has been back twice to Landaff to look for the tracker. If he recovers the tracker, he would be only one of seven radio hobbyists who have circumnavigated the globe with a homemade tracker and the only one who actually recovered the device.



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Canary Islands, EA8. Thomas, OZ1AA plans to get on the air from the club station EF8U on Gran Canaria (AF-004, CQ Zone 33) for the CQ WW DX CW contest. QSL via EA8URL (direct or the Bureau).

A large team (K1LZ, K1ZM, RW1A, RW7K, LZ2HM, RN1AM, YO9GZU, YO9WF, K3JO, 9A5K, RA1A, and EA8DO) will be active in the Multi, Single category CQ WW DX CW from ED8X on La Palma (AF-004, CQ Zone 33). QSL via RN3RQ, LoTW.

Mayotte, FH. Pierre, HB9AMO will be active holiday-style from 23 November until 4 December from Mayotte (AF-027, CQ Zone 39). He will be active as FH/HB9AMO on 80 to 10 m (mostly CW) and during the CQ WW DX CW contest. QSL via M0URX, LoTW.
<http://www.hb9amo.net/fh.php>

Rodriguez Island, 3B9. Olof, G0CKV, operates as 3B9HA between 24 November and 12 December from Rodriguez Island (AF-017 and CQ Zone 39). He will be active with a focus on the low bands and the contest. QSL via M0OXO and LoTW.

Tanzania, 5H. Sergei, R4WAA, and Yan, RZ3FW, will be active as 5H1WW from Unguja, Zanzibar Island (AF-032), between 19 and 28 November. Activity will be holiday style on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and the Digital modes. They also plan to be an entry in the CQ WW DX CW Contest on 26 and 27 November as a Multi-Single/Low-Power entry. QSL via RZ3FW or ClubLog's OQRS.

Cape Verde, D4. Raul, EA2SS, will be active as D44TBC from Sal Island (AF-086) between 19 and 28 November. Activity will be holiday style on 20 and 30 meters using an FT-817 and half-wave dipoles. QSL via EA2SS, by the Bureau or eQSL.

Madeira Islands, CR3/CT9. Adam, DJ0IF, Franta, DJ0ZY, Ulrich, DJ2YA, Falk, DK7YY, Arno, DL1CW, Ulf, DL5AXX, Paul, DL5CW, Mike, DL7UGN, Emil, DL8JJ, and Vesko, LZ2JE will be active as CR3W from Santana, Madeira Island (AF-014), during the CQ WW DX CW Contest on 26 and 27 November as a Multi-2 entry. QSL CR3W via DL5AXX. Look for operators to possibly sign as CT9/home call before and after the contest on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via their home call signs.

Summit-to-Summit super activation 19 November 2016

Ed, DD5LP, reports that the Summits on the Air 'Summit to Summit' event between Europe and North America on Saturday 19 November was a great success. Despite cold and rainy weather across several parts of Europe, band conditions being average and interference from contestants in the LZ DX contest, all activators who were out reported a successful and enjoyable day.

Some stations racked up multiple S2S (Summit to Summit) contacts across the three continents involved - as well as Europe and North America - there was one activator on holiday in the Canary Islands, which counts geographically as Africa. The event was also an opportunity for others to try out new rigs and other equipment, especially antennas. Several activators had their first-ever inter-continental summit-to-summit contact and were really happy about that. Others went in small teams and enjoyed working together. Some had tents to protect them from the weather. Others were really lucky with the weather, while others got soaked.

Three bands were used for inter-continental contacts - 21, 18 and 14 MHz. Most contacts were made on 20 metres; however, those with multiple band capability moved away from the contest traffic on 20 metres to the more peaceful 17 and 15 metres. The consensus seems to be that

from a propagation point of view 17 metres was the best; however, inter-continental QSOs were made on all three bands. We even have some reports of chasers from VK catching some of the EU activators via short path in the very early hours of the Australian Sunday morning!

Sixty-six summits had been announced, but 77 were actually activated, an increase on the 51 summits alerted and 73 stations taking part in the VK - EU event a month earlier. It will be interesting to see what the numbers are for the North America - VK event. This may only now take place in 2017 when the weather in the Northern Hemisphere improves.

The general feeling around the SOTA community is that having these S2S events is both enjoyable and useful and many are looking forward to more of them.

Read the full story

at www.unionleader.com/article/20161123/NEWS23/161129743

High Altitude Balloon links <https://amsat-uk.org/beginners/balloons/>



Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 14 to 21 November 2016

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest:

02:00 - 04:00 UTC 21 November

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 27 November 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://qrptest.com/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://qrptest.com/pigrun/>

SKCC Sprint

00:00 - 02:00 UTC 23 November

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and SKCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Bonus Points: 5 points per Centurion member QSO per band;

10 points per Tribune member QSO per band; 25 points per

QSO with SKCC club call (K9SKC) per band

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 25 November 2016

E-mail log summary to: (none)

Post log summary at: http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/submit-display.php

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 23 November

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 25 November 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_ConTEST_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 23 November and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 24 November

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member:

Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 26 November 2016

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, CW

20:00 - 21:00 UTC 24 November

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: 100 W; 10 W

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 1 December 2016

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2016/rsprint.shtml>

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 25 November

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 27 November 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rtty.html>

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 25 November

Mode: CW

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

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Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 27 November 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

CQ Worldwide DX CW Contest

00:00 UTC 26 November to 24:00 UTC 27 November

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high - option: Classic or Rookie; Single Op Single Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Assisted All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Assisted Single Band - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single – low or high; Multi-Two; Multi-Multi

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and CQ Zone No.

Work stations: Once per band

Next Week's Contests

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 30 November

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 30 November

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00

UTC 30 November and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 1 December

UKEICC 80 m Contest, 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 30 November

NRAU 10 m Activity Contest, 18:00 - 19:00 UTC (CW), 19:00 - 20:00 UTC (SSB), 20:00 - 21:00 UTC (FM) and 21:00 - 22:00 UTC 1 December (Dig)

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 2 December

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 2 December

NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 2 December

ARRL 160-Meter Contest, 22:00 UTC 2 December to 16:00 UTC 4 December

QSO Points: 0 points per QSO with same country (counts as mult); 1 point per QSO with different country same continent; 2 points per QSO with different country same continent (NA); 3 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each CQ zone once per band; Each country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 2 December 2016

E-mail logs to: cw@cqww.com

Upload log at: <http://www.cqww.com/logcheck/>

Web-to-Cabrillo form: http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/cqwwcw_cab.php

Mail logs to: CQ WW DX Contest, Box 481, New Carlisle, OH 45344, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

TARA RTTY Melee, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 3 December

Wake-Up! QRP Sprint, 06:00 – 06:29 UTC, 06:30 – 06:59 UTC, 07:00 – 07:29 UTC and 07:30 – 08:00 UTC 3 December

TOPS Activity Contest, 16:00 UTC 3 December to 15:59 UTC 4 December

Ten-Meter RTTY Contest, 00:00 UTC-24:00 UTC 4 December

SARL Digital Contest, 13:00 UTC-16:00 UTC 4 December

ARS Spartan Sprint, 02:00 UTC-04:00 UTC 6 December

HF Happenings

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter